

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01

NEA-06 /033 W

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R 212317Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3179

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 957

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, APER, UN

SUBJ: UN PERSONNEL: STATUS OF US CANDIDATE FOR  
UNIDO

REF: USUN 950

1. AT LUCH TODAY I RAISED BURNS' APPOINTMENT WITH SECRETARY GENERAL IN ORDER TO FOLLOW-UP ON MARCH 19 CONVERSATION WITH USYG DAVIDSON REPORTED REFTEL. I SAID TO SYG THAT, SPEAKING AS LONG-TIME FRIEND, I WOULD CAUTION HIM NOT TO UNDERESTIMATE DEGREE OF U.S. INTEREST IN UNIDO APPOINTMENT FOR AMBASSADOR BURNS. THIS WAS AN APPOINTMENT USG INSISTED ON. IF IT MEANT CONFRONTATION WITH ABDEL-RAHMAN (A-R), THEN THIS WAS A GOOD ISSUE ON WHICH TO POSE CONFRONTATION. I REMINDED HIM THAT HIS OWN AUTHORITY AND PREROGATIVES AS SECRETARY GENERAL WERE INVOLVED.

2. WALDHEIM SHOWED HIMSELF SENSITIVE TO ABOVE CONSIDERATIONS AND SAID HE COULD ASSURE US APPOINTMENT WOULD BE MADE. HE RECOGNIZED A-R WAS CHALLENGING HIS AUTHORITY AND REFERRED TO LATTER AS "INTRIQUER," COMMENTING THAT A-R WAS NOT A MAN OF ANY GREAT SUBSTANTIVE ABILITY. HE SAID HE WAS STILL GETTING THREATS OF RESIGNATION FROM A-R AND KNEW LATTER WAS TRYING TO LINE UP LDC SUPPORT FOR HIS CHALLENGE RE RELATIONSHIP OF UNIDO TO UN HEAD-  
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QUARTERS. HE SAID HE HAD ALSO ASCERTAINED THROUGH HIS

OWN SOURCES THAT EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT HAD NO PARTICULAR INTEREST IN SUPPORTING A-R. SYG CONTINUED THAT HE STILL HOPED TO AVOID FULL-SCALE CONFRONTATION OVER APPOINTMENT BURNS AND HAD SCHEDULED MID-APRIL MEETING WITH A-R IN PARIS.

3. I STRESSED ONCE AGAIN TO WALDHEIM OUR INSISTENCE ON THIS APPOINTMENT AND HE REPEATED WE COULD COUNT ON IT.

4.COMMENT: IT SEEMS CLEAR WALDHEIM HAS HAD ENOUGH OF A-R AND IS WORKING TOWARDS NOT RENEWING A-R'S CONTRACT ON ITS EXPIRATION LATER THIS YEAR. I BELIEVE HE WILL PROCEED WITH BURNS' APPOINTMENT, BUT IS GOING TO TRY TO ACHIEVE THIS IN HIS OWN AUSTRIAN WAY. WE SHALL KEEP THE PRESSURE ON HIM.  
BENNETT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974USUNN00957  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740060-1048  
**From:** USUN NEW YORK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 77  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** USUN 950  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25 MAR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <25 MAR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <06 MAY 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UN PERSONNEL: STATUS OF US CANDIDATE FOR UNIDO  
**TAGS:** AORG, APER, UN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005